One More Weapon Against CFE

Small solar systems will be able to sell the electricity they produce

BY REDDY KILOWATT

The Federal Electricity Commission (CFE) has withdrawn its opposition against buying electricity generated by small roof top operations. (Generated distribution). This means a quicker payback on an individual’s investment on solar.

CFE didn’t do this willingly, they were forced to by the regulatory agency that governs them. CFE wants to opt out of taking this electricity, (which southern Baja needs badly), arguing that they will lose money because of high transmission costs.

The legal action effectively means that people using small solar systems can now sell the energy they produce to the CFE. The general secretary of the National Solar Energy Association (ANES) said in April that CFE’s refusal to buy this extra energy was holding back investment in the sector. It was also a barrier to unlocking the full capacity of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Don’t Feed The Pelicans!

They can fend for themselves

BY JOHN AUDOBON

Large numbers of young pelicans are a pain in the ass to fishermen, but although the pelicans may exhibit begging behavior and some may appear weak, the birds don’t need help, the fishermen need help against the birds. Not only is feeding them not good for the pelicans, but feeding the little beggars is not good for your boat, which they will surely leave your food on after it passes through them.

When people feed pelicans, it leads to dependence on humans and conflicts in the future, such as entanglement

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
Let there be light. According to the state’s secretary of urban planning, a total of 27,457 street lights have been installed and/or repaired throughout our state in the past three years. Many of those were washed out to China by hurricane Odile in 2014, and many were just never installed. Most of the new ones have LED lightbulbs. These are a big help to fight crime.

We made it! Los Cabos has again been recognized in the Best 100 Hotels list of the Travel + Leisure magazine, top four hotels in Mexico. These are, in order of appearance: The Resort at Pedregal, Las Ventanas al Paraiso, Chileno Bay Resort and Esperanza, Yikes, Esperanza made the list of top hotels when an employee admitted he raped a guest and the whole mess has devolved into a lawsuit? Just what does a hotel have to do to get tossed off this “best” list? The hotel management refused to call the police and didn’t at first fire the employee. The woman, a medical doctor, is suing in California where Esperanza is headquartered, but Esperanza is now saying they don’t actually own it, they just license their name. So it’s not their fault. But they’re proud to have their name on this list, thank you very much.

More dinero for cops. The city government and city council approved a major salary increase for our local cops last week, making them the best paid in the country.

The lowest monthly income for rookies will be $800 a month, and goes up to 2 grand a month for the higher-ranking officers. The director of public safety, who is also an active serviceman, (Navy), will maintain the same salary of $2,500 a month.

We’re good at something. We have 35% of the cleanest beaches in all of Mexico. Last week, officials from our Los Cabos city government received 19 Blue Flags at a ceremony held in the resort.

Huatulco, Oaxaca, in Southern Mexico.

The iconic Blue Flag is one of the world’s most recognized voluntary eco-labels awarded to beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operations. In order to qualify for the Blue Flag, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety, and accessibility criteria must be met and maintained. This doesn’t mean other beaches aren’t spiffy clean, it just means either they’re a mess or they are not tourist oriented and have not bothered to jump through the numerous hoops and pay the money it takes to get the official designation.

The Blue Flag program was established by the Foundation for Environmental Education, supported by the United Nations Environmental Program and is established in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Denmark? Just how serious can we take eco stuff that comes out of Denmark? Last summer our boss was vacationing in Denmark and was offered some tasty whale to eat. Yes, it is legal in Denmark to catch, kill and eat whales. She said it tasted awful, very strong. She also said the waiter offering it was amused that Americans, (or practically anyone else), don’t eat whale. They even sell T shirts with a harpoon with a Denmark flag on it, and stuck in a whale. So, no, sorry, we’re not taking Denmark’s ecological programs seriously.

Good time to eat. There is a program called “Los Cabos Come Asi,” or Los Cabos Eat Like This, with the goal to increase restaurant sales during the summer season.

Over 30 restaurants in Cabo San Lucas and San Jose will be offering an average of 30% discount and special, inexpensive menus from July 27 through August 5. This is the third year the Los Cabos restaurant ass., known as Canirac, has launched the program.

Oh, this offer is not for tourists, but locals only. If you are a foreigner and can prove that you live here, you will also be entitled to enjoy the discounts. Look up “Los Cabos Come Asi” in Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for more.

Huatulco, Oaxaca, in Southern Mexico.

The iconic Blue Flag is one of the world’s most recognized voluntary eco-labels awarded to beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operations. In order to qualify for the Blue Flag, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety, and accessibility criteria must be met and maintained. This doesn’t mean other beaches aren’t spiffy clean, it just means either they’re a mess or they are not tourist oriented and have not bothered to jump through the numerous hoops and pay the money it takes to get the official designation.

The Blue Flag program was established by the Foundation for Environmental Education, supported by the United Nations Environmental Program and is established in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Denmark? Just how serious can we take eco stuff that comes out of Denmark? Last summer our boss was vacationing in Denmark and was offered some tasty whale to eat. Yes, it is legal in Denmark to catch, kill and eat whales. She said it tasted awful, very strong. She also said the waiter offering it was amused that Americans, (or practically anyone else), don’t eat whale. They even sell T shirts with a harpoon with a Denmark flag on it, and stuck in a whale. So, no, sorry, we’re not taking Denmark’s ecological programs seriously.

Good time to eat. There is a list of restaurants involved, or ask your favorite restaurant if they are part of the program.

We are still loved. The Los Cabos hotel association stated last week that we can expect at least 70% of the hotel rooms to be full this summer, thanks in big part to the Mexican tourists who love us. Our summer average room rate is around $216 per night, way down from the overall $300 a night, the highest in Mexico.

This is good news, considering that this year we have added 800 new hotel rooms, to reach a total of 17,000. That, of course, does not include the many private condos and homes rented on such sites as Airbnb and VRBO.

The first semester of the year we enjoyed 80% room occupancy in Cabo San Lucas, 72% in San Jose and 67% along the fourlane, where the most expensive resorts are located. Five new resorts will be open this year, and the growth will continue with 16 new resorts by the year 2021.

Sheraton donates to children. Early this month, the Sheraton Grande Los Cabos presented a check for $105,000 pesos (a tad over 5 grand) to the Los Cabos Children’s Foundation, a local charity that supports pediatric oncology, cardiology and intensive care programs for children of low income families. The money was raised during their sixth annual Los Cabos Cheese and Wine Festival which was held at the resort.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
Fishing And Golf Tournament Raises Big Bucks

$3.6 Million Stars & Stripes Gives to Children

BY GRETA ARAMBULO

In a tournament most locals don’t even know about, 61 teams, and 232 anglers, along with several teams of golfers, raised $3.6 million for seven children’s charities.

It all started with a chopper chop-chopering overhead and dropping Dana Bowman, a double amputee and former US Army Special Forces soldier. He prised of three anglers from San Diego, Mark Cripe, Robert Bosplug, and Steve Tucker, were the top scorers in the tournament, with 120 points, and 6 yellowfin tuna.

The Chris Jones Gold team came in a close second with 118 points, 5 yellowfin tuna, 2 dorado, and 1 striped marlin.

Bradlee Arendt from the Ship and Giggles team caught the heaviest dorado, weighing in at 36 lbs, and Robert Bosplug, from the Helix Electric team caught the heaviest tuna, weighing in at 41 lbs. Phil Berry from the Fake News team caught 1 striped marlin.

You don’t hear about the Stars & Stripes tourney because it all happens out of town. The participants stay at the Hilton on the corridor, and the weigh in is at Chileno Beach. The big Saturday evening charity dinner takes place at the Hilton Hotel, where everybody was encouraged to dress in white. The entertainment highlighted several of the charities.

Don’t Eat Our Sport Fish!

Marlin & dorado are species reserved exclusively for sport fishing & cannot be sold commercially.

If you see them on a restaurant menu, please do not order them. It is against the law. We know they taste good but these sport fish are the foundation of our community; all business & families are linked directly or indirectly to sport fishing and without a healthy fishery we will not have a healthy economy or environment.

However, if you catch a marlin or dorado & want to have it cooked for your own personal use at a local restaurant that’s fine, but it cannot be sold.

Tieida 17

2 LOCATIONS • SAN JOSE DEL CABO

Tel: 624 105 2323, 624 142 2121 • Open: Mon. - Sat. 10:00am - 4:00pm
E mail: tieida17@hotmail.com • Tieida 17

HURRICANE PROTECTION – Mexico Home & Condo Insurance

Protecting Our Client’s Assets & Health In Mexico Since 2004

Home • Condo • Renters
Fire • Theft • Liability Hurricane & Earthquake
Car • Truck • RV
U.S. • Canada • Mexico
Full Coverage or Liability Only
Watercraft (Global)
Hull &/or Mexico Liability Only
Air Evacuation Only
Take Me Home
Dedicated Claims Servicing!!

www.InsureMeBaja.com

01 800-099-0614 (Mex)
(818) 788-5353 (US)

Global Health Protection (ExPat)
Annual Deductibles • Senior Plans & Catastrophic Plans Available
All Nationalities Accepted

Accident & Illness (Travel)

Global Medical Protection
Air Evacuation Coverage Included
No Underwriting • Online Enrollment
Annual Plans for as low as $199

Life Insurance (Global)
No Medical Exams or Medical Records
Home Investment & Private Seller Protection

West Coast Global Insurance

Protecting Our Client’s Assets & Health In Mexico Since 2004

BY GRETA ARAMBULO

In a tournament most locals don’t even know about, 61 teams, and 232 anglers, along with several teams of golfers, raised $3.6 million for seven children’s charities.

It all started with a chopper chop-chopering overhead and dropping Dana Bowman, a double amputee and former US Army Special Forces soldier. He prised of three anglers from San Diego, Mark Cripe, Robert Bosplug, and Steve Tucker, were the top scorers in the tournament, with 120 points, and 6 yellowfin tuna.

The Chris Jones Gold team came in a close second with 118 points, 5 yellowfin tuna, 2 dorado, and 1 striped marlin.

Bradlee Arendt from the Ship and Giggles team caught the heaviest dorado, weighing in at 36 lbs, and Robert Bosplug, from the Helix Electric team caught the heaviest tuna, weighing in at 41 lbs. Phil Berry from the Fake News team caught 1 striped marlin.

You don’t hear about the Stars & Stripes tourney because it all happens out of town. The participants stay at the Hilton on the corridor, and the weigh in is at Chileno Beach. The big Saturday evening charity dinner takes place at the Hilton Hotel, where everybody was encouraged to dress in white. The entertainment highlighted several of the charities.

One of the special guests of the evening was Moses Aramburo, a local man who was a beneficiary of the Stars & Stripes in 2012. Stars & Stripes donors supported Moses with a generous donation to help him get his first mind-controlled bionic hand, after an accident where doctors had to amputate a part of his right hand.

“Stars & Stripes Tournament has allowed me to regain mobility and function of my right hand after being involved in an accident in late 2012. With the use of my new bionic hand, I have been able to carry on with life uninterrupted and not feel disabled but empowered to continue facing life and its challenges. I

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Don’t Eat Our Sport Fish!

Marlin & dorado are species reserved exclusively for sport fishing & cannot be sold commercially.

If you see them on a restaurant menu, please do not order them. It is against the law. We know they taste good but these sport fish are the foundation of our community; all business & families are linked directly or indirectly to sport fishing and without a healthy fishery we will not have a healthy economy or environment.

However, if you catch a marlin or dorado & want to have it cooked for your own personal use at a local restaurant that’s fine, but it cannot be sold.
We're next! Up in the Chihuahua desert of northern Mexico, there is a shimmering blue field of solar panels the size of 2,200 football fields. This Italian owned largest solar installation in Latin America has 2.3 million solar panels that power 1.3 million homes. It is the biggest solar project in the world outside of China and India. The panels are designed to turn in tandem with the sun, like a field of metallic sunflowers. They are part of Mexico’s push to generate 35% of its electricity from clean sources by 2024.

Here in Southern Baja, where we suffer the highest priced electricity in Mexico, we now have two solar farms in theworks. Well, almost. Supposedly they're coming. That's the good news. The bad news is the owners of the solar panels are expected to sell all their juice to CFE, the electricity utility. We'll be right back where we're starting, at the mercy of CFE.

**Sales tax going down.** For other people, not us. President-elect López Obrador has a plan to cut the sales tax (IVA), rate within 20 miles of the border back down to 8% from the current 16% imposed in 2014. Sales tax in the rest of the country is 16%. He says his aim is boosting the economy in the north of the country and slowing down migration to the United States. He said a lower tax rate would have a positive effect on production, although he also said that growth in the border region is already generally higher than the national average.

He also said the reduced tax rate would mean more money to spend on consumer goods, adding that lower prices would encourage residents to shop at home rather than across the border. And that is the key. People flock across the border for a wider selection of products at a cheaper price, as well as sales tax of only 8% in California. Collection of sales tax in Mexico was taking a hit. Mexicans who live near the border spend US $7 billion annually in the United States, meaning that even if a fraction of that amount is spent in Mexico instead, the benefit to the local economy would be significant. But some think that halving the sales tax in the border region would lead to an annual reduction of tax revenue of US $1.6 billion if overall economic growth of 2.2% is maintained.

In addition to establishing a duty-free zone, the López Obrador-led administration will seek to drive economic growth in the northern border region by promoting better policing, the establishment of industrial parks, and less regulation. Currently many Mexicans walk over the border dragging an

---

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 11**

Santiago is so hot he melted

designed to turn in tandem with the sun, like a field of metallic sunflowers. They are part of Mexico’s push to generate 35% of its electricity from clean sources back where we’re starting, at the mercy of CFE.
Iconic Building Demolished

The ruins of the old tuna cannery, located at the end of the Cabo marina, is being demolished as we speak. Well, we’re not speaking but you get the drift.

The industry started out with a floating tuna packing plant in 1917 and 10 years later the Marine Products Company was established and the building was constructed of concrete. This industry was the first to come to Cabo, even before you, our precious tourists and ex-pats who are now our industry. The cannery stayed in operation until 1980.

The remains of the old canning plant were pretty dilapidated. It was nearly destroyed by a hurricane in the 1940’s and rebuilt in the 1950’s. The old building stood as an empty and unsavory piece of local history, as bad stuff went on behind the crumbling walls in recent years. Cannery Beach, more commonly known as Playa Empacadora to the locals, is right in front of it, and is mostly visited by local families, as the waves are gentle and swimming is easy. This will greatly enhance their beach experience.
Don’t Feed the Pelicans...

in fishing line around piers and boats. Improper feeding can also cause damage to the pelicans’ throat pouch and intestinal tract, and contribute to a decline in health and possible death. For instance Twinkies. Twinkies are a definite no no. And so is everything else you foolishly eat. Although many people are understandably concerned about ailing pelicans, it is normal for some to die in the summer due to natural causes, especially the young pelicans learning to feed on schooling fish. The mortalities are caused by a natural balancing between population size and available food supply.

Anglers also should not feed pelicans or throw food scraps toward them or into the water. Trash cans and dumpsters should be kept closed to prevent pelicans from jumping in and getting oiled, and from getting fish parts lodged in their pouches and throats.

Most of the pelicans in peril are young birds and human contact makes them become pier bums leading to an unsafe situation for the birds. Saving individual pelicans requires expensive capture, cleaning and care at a rehab facility, and we know that’s not going to happen in Mexico. Therefore, it’s better to exercise caution and take steps to prevent the problem in the first place. Anyone who sees pelicans that appear to be sick or injured, or entangled with fishing line should not touch or approach them. Injured wildlife will instinctively defend themselves and may injure someone trying to help them. Who to call in Mexico? Well, nobody actually. Mexican wild life is just going to have to toughen up. Just don’t coddle them when you see them in distress.

What’s That Ship Out There?

Koreans do Cabo. We sure welcome a lot of Koreans throughout the year, mostly cruise ship passengers. But their latest visit was a surprising one, as 32 of them arrived aboard a tanker ship, the 600 ft. long Silver Millie. The ship is flagged in the Marshall Islands. They announced their visit was to load more groceries and take a break, as their trip through the Panama canal after discharging their load in Rosarito beach in Northern Baja, was changed and they had to return to South Korea. Hmm….something’s going on here we don’t know about, but this is the official word.

What To Do If You’re Stopped By The Police

People! Do not feed these thieves, you only make it worse for yourself and for everyone else. If nobody gives them money, they will stop asking.

If you are stopped, and you have actually made a boo boo, ask for a ticket and go down to the police station later on or the next day, or even the next week, and pay it. They will take your driver’s license to insure that you show up, and that’s OK. They do not want your license, and there is noting they can do with it. You will get it back. If you have not broken any law, just keep asking for a ticket. “Dar may un teeket por favor”. Be polite but be firm. If they threaten you or get nasty, write down their name, or if they are not wearing their name badge, (mandatory, but still it’s common for them to stick it in their pocket), then haul out your phone and take their picture. That’s like holding a mirror up to a vampire, and they will jump in their car and scurry away like cockroaches when you turn on the light. They will let you go with some face saving mumble like, “just a warning this time”.

If they threaten you or get nasty, write down their name, or if they are not wearing their name badge, (mandatory, but still it’s common for them to stick it in their pocket), then haul out your phone and take their picture. That’s like holding a mirror up to a vampire, and they will jump in their car and scurry away like cockroaches when you turn on the light. They will let you go with some face saving mumble like, “just a warning this time”.

It’s extremely rare for them to write a ticket, and for sure they will not cite you when you haven’t done anything wrong. And, if you have broken a law, the ticket is ridiculously small. Man up and go down and pay it, don’t take the cowardly/lazy way out and throw money at the officer.

OK, once more now, altogether, “dar may un teeket”

This police extortion would stop in a week if everyone would grow a back bone and stand up to them. If it doesn’t stop, then it’s your own fault.

Latest Advances in Stem Cell Therapy

New Stem Cell and PRP protocols from the leading research clinics in Mexico

PRMEDICA are leaders in regenerative medicine and provide advanced stem cell and blood platelet treatments for people with painful knee, shoulder, hip, and back conditions, torn or strained tendons and ligaments, arthritis, and other degenerative joint conditions. These treatments increase function, decrease pain and offer a viable alternative for patients who may be considering surgery.

SHOULDER
BACK
KNEE

To treat painful arthritis of the joints we may give an injection of 25 to 50 million mesenchymal stem cells combined with platelet-rich plasma into the affected joint. If you also suffer other degenerative joints conditions, we may give an IV infusion of 100 to 175 million stem cells, based on the severity of your condition. Costs from $1900 US

PRMEDICA also offer the latest protocols for the treatment of diabetes, chronic degenerative disease, neurological disease, and much more.

Why not schedule a free consultation with our doctors to review your condition. Visit www.prmedica-inc.com for more info about the stem cell procedures available at PRMEDICA

PRMEDICA Inc.
Center for Preventative and Regenerative Medicine
Stemcellcabo@gmail.com
Carretera Transpeninsular Km 30 Plaza Los Portales 3rd Floor, Paseo del Estero,
San Jose Del Cabo, B.C.S. Mexico

Tel: 624 688 8497
624 157 1970

@gringogazette_

GRINGO Gazete
Buying In Cabo But Keeping Mobile

Use it to buy your way into an exchange club

BY KT MORGAN

When buying an expensive second home in Cabo, you have to give a lot of thought to just how much time you want to spend here. With a high end investment you have to commit to spending a large part of your leisure time here. But now there is a solution to this concern. There is a company called Third Home that opens up your horizons and makes your full ownership home here a gateway to the world.

Third Home has no inventory of homes, but they arrange for owners of high end homes in one vacation spot to use an equally wonderful home in another spectacular vacation spot.

This has nothing to do with timeshare or even the euphemism for timeshare, fractional. You must own your home here to use a home in Hawaii or Sri Lanka, or hundreds of other exotic locations. Luxury homes are located in over 1,700 cities, the average home value is $2.3 million, with some homes valued at up to $30 million and they are affiliated with more than 80 of the world’s leading luxury resorts. All homes are pre-screened, so you get no unpleasant surprises.

To be accepted into the club, your property must be in a desirable location with quality furnishings, appointments and amenities. You request a membership, your home is inspected, and if you are accepted, you will be awarded travel credits, called Keys. You get a Key for each week deposited based on the value of your home. The more desirable the weeks and home, the more Keys you earn.

In addition to top notch exchanges and travel club options, Third Home offers white-glove concierge services. They will make your Third Home vacation even more memorable by tapping into their local expertise, allowing them to handle all the details of your stay, big or small. This includes private transportation and possibly pre and post hotel accommodations, in-home private chef dinners and wine tastings, and daylong guided excursions with tour companies.

So maybe re-think your hesitation to put down roots in Cabo, knowing you can use it to travel the world in the style you have earned here. Third Home has a pretty good website at thirdhome.com.

KT Morgan owns Cabos Finest and specializes in high end homes that can qualify for this program. He knows how to get you qualified. www.cabosfinest.com. He can be reached at 624-157-1829.

This year’s Wine and Cheese Festival welcomed more than 700 guests eager to indulge in international wines and premium imported cheeses from the industry’s vendors. The resort’s Executive Chef Christian Schwuger, served more than 700 guests, the most well attended and successful event to date.

New flight. Sunwing is boosting its Ottawa schedule this winter, with new direct weekly service to Los Cabos. The first-time route for Sunwing will operate with Thursday departures from Dec. 20 through April 11 of next year. With the addition of this new flight Sunwing will offer Ottawa travelers 11 different flight options for winter getaways.

“We are delighted to be pro-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Que Pasá In Cabo?...
continued from page 2

This year’s Wine and Cheese Festival welcomed more than 700 guests eager to indulge in international wines and premium imported cheeses from the industry’s vendors. The resort’s Executive Chef Christian Schwuger, served more than 700 guests, the most well attended and successful event to date.

New flight. Sunwing is boosting its Ottawa schedule this winter, with new direct weekly ser-
Monday to Saturday. 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Rancher’s market in Todos Santos. Featuring homemade products from rural areas. Artisanal cheeses, organic chicken and eggs, liqueurs and virgin honey, as well as handicrafts such as furniture made with regional woods, leather goods and clay pottery all made by ranchers’ hands. The Mercado (market). Todos Santos on Calle Morelos between Rangel and Cuauhtemoc, inside the San Diego Feed Store.

Every Monday. 8:30 am. Pickleball in San Jose. Contact rondonburtman@gmail.com.

Every Tuesday. 8:00 am. Rotary Club at the Sheraton Hacienda del Mar resort. In the Chapel. RSVP: 172-0009 or 172-0010.

Every Tuesday. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. La Paz organic market. Postal Park, Constitucion and Madero streets. Free.

Every Tuesday. 6:00 pm. Music Mexico Tuesdays, Downtown San Jose. Live music, mariachi band, and artisans.

Every Wednesday. 7:00 am to 12:30 pm. The Organic Market at Pedregal. Fresh, organic produce (except Styrofoam), thick cardboard, computer equipment (except monitors), small home appliances (except TV’s of all kinds), cellphones and accessories, edible vegetable oil, ink cartridges and toners of HP, Samsung and Xerox only. Please in San Josè at Centenario corner with Idefonse Green. In Cabo San Lucas at the parking lot of the baseball stadium. Email info@yorecilo.org.mx for more information.

Every Thursday. 8:00 am. Rotary Club breakfast. At the Playa Grande Resort, above the Sports Bar, Cabo San Lucas.

Every Thursday. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Al-Anon Family Group. Next to Calvary Chapel Corner of Degollado and Margarita Maza de Juarez in San Jose. Call 624-165-3333 for more information.

Every Thursday. 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Art Walk. Visit different galleries; many serve free wine. Alvaro Obregén district in downtown San Jose.

Every Thursday. 5:00 to 10:00 pm. Los Cabos Products. Sale of products made in Los Cabos by residents from the rural areas. Fresh produce, jams, sweets, arts and crafts and furniture. At the main plaza in downtown Cabo on Hidalgo street, two blocks up from the Tesoro hotel.

Every Thursday. 6:00 pm. Trivia Night. Todos Santos Brewing. English and Spanish with short rounds and prizes available each round. Alvaro Obregén (between Militar & Rangel). Facebook @TodosSantosBrewing. Ph 612 1452023 or email info@todossantosbrew.mx

Every Friday. 5:00 to 9:00 pm. Todos Santos Farmers Market. Fun stuff. At the Distillery (but it moves around, so check where it is this week). Email James Black at merlo4u@earthlink.net or call (612) 134-8728 for more information.

Every Friday. 5:00 to 9:00 pm. Arts and crafts market “El Colibrí.” Original handmade jewelry, homemade food, arts, crafts and original live music. Nothing made in China here. Call 624-102-0109.

Every Friday. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Farmer’s market at the Shoppes at Palmilla. Information: 624-144-6999, www.theshoppesatpalmilla.com. Runs through April.

Every Friday. 5:00 to 11:00 pm. Mexican Friday. Live music and special promotions. At El Merkado, the Koral Center in Cerro Colorado.

Every Saturday. 7:00 am to 12:30 pm. The Organic Market at Pedregal. Fresh, organic produce, coffee, fish, sea-food, eggs, whole lambs, (Little Bo Peep!) pigs, (Por- ky! Is that your?) handicrafts, plus breakfast and lunch at Penny Lane’s Café.

Every Saturday and Tuesday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. La Paz organic market. Postal Park, Constitucion and Madero streets. Free.

Every Saturday. All day. The goodaddy of all markets. In addition to organic produce, there are handicrafts, books, critters to adopt, food to eat and who knows what. Behind the town of San Jose. Go to their webpage and study the map: www.sanjomo.com

Every Saturday. 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Children’s library open. Story tellers at 10:30 and 12:30. Looking for gently used books. theranchkidz@yahoo.com, Todos Santos. Spanish.

Every Saturday. 5:00 to 9:00 pm. Arts and crafts exhibit along the Cabo marina, in front of Solomon’s Landing and the cultural pavilion. Live music, dancers and art workshops for children. Free.

Every Sunday. 6:00 pm. Sunday Sessions Live Music. Todos Santos Brewing. Enjoy the beautiful star filled Baja sky, live acoustic music, fabu-lous handmade craft beers and delicious food. Álvaro Obregén street (between Militar & Rangel). Facebook @TodosSantosBrewing for more information. 612-145-2023 or email info@todossantosbrewing.mx

Every Sunday. 5:00 to 11:00 pm. Bicycle, walk, skate or drag your pet around downtown Cabo. The main drag in Cabo San Lucas closes to vehicle traffic. Great opportunity to exercise and mingle with local families. Each week a different activity, like spinning, aerobics, zumba lessons. Email clubcactusbike@gmail.com for information.

Every Sunday. 12:00 to 4:00 pm. Sunday in the park. Secured dog park. Open to the public. Providing a safe location to enjoy your dog off leash. Visit www.cabok@corral.com for information.


July 27th to the 31st Todos Santos Mango Festival. Starting Friday July 27 at 10:00 am with the official inauguration at the San Ignacio Barrio (located to the left of La Esquina restaurant, ask for directions). Regional dances. Saturday, July 28 at 8:00 pm, Dance festival at San Ignacio Barrio. Sunday, July 29 at 11:00 am, Horse riding parade, starts at Pescadero. Then at 8:00 pm, big party with live music at San Ignacio Barrio. Monday, July 30 near midnight, celebration of San Ignacio Day, a crowd will sing the traditional “Las Mañanitas” song at the San Ignacio barrio. Tuesday, July 31, early Mass followed by a cultural and performing arts festival.

October 14-18 The Los Cabos Billfish Tournament returns for its-anniversary. Base entry fee is $5,000 per team (up to six registered anglers). This fee covers the participation of regis- tered anglers and allows the team to enter any of the optional jackpot categories.


November 4, Sunday. 7:00 am – 5:00 pm. Ironman 70.3 Los Cabos 2018. More information soon, but roads will be closed, best don’t fly in or out that day. Follow www.isironman.com.

November 7-10 20th Annual Los Cabos Tuna Jackpot. Information: www.tosdosbatunajackpot.com

November 13-16 Los Cabos Big Game Charter Boat Classic returns for its-anniversary tournament. This is a free competition for anyone willing to campers where, instead of an entry fee, participants book a local fishing charter and the crew provides the expertise, experience and tackle needed to compete. The tournament is designed to be stress-free and requires little preparation from participants.

To get your event listed here, email the details to david@gringogazette.com. There is no charge. And, if an event we list here does not go off when stated, please don’t shoot the messenger, this is Mexico, and every event is, well, fluid. ➡️
**Calendar of Performing Arts**

**Community Reading Lounges**

At **AMELIA WILKES PLAZA** Main plaza downtown CSL,
**Every Saturday from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.** Herman Ita de Ysabela Reading club has a different book to read and comment. Saturdays starting April 9. Spanish mostly. Book donations are welcome. More info and special activities with Nixania email: todomolesol@Gmail.com Free.

At **PLAZA COTA**
**From Monday to Friday.** From 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Reading Club. Every Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays starting April 9. Spanish mostly. Book donations are welcome. More info and special activities with Nixania email: todomolesol@Gmail.com Free.

**At HOLYDANCE CAFE**, Leona Vicario St. And 12 de Octubre St. 2nd Floor, downtown Cabo.
**Every Tuesday from 4:30 to 6:30 pm.** Trotamundos Reading Club. Spanish mostly. More info and special activities on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/saladelecturatrotamundos/timeline

**At KINESIS GYM**, El Chimalt barrio near the Convention Center.
**From Monday to Friday.** 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. La Maroma Reading club. Books available. More info and special activities on Facebook: facebook.com/la-Maroma%C3%B8nea-Kinesis-Fabuladanza-69103979763083/timeline

**At LA CIRCO**, Libroteka Reading Club.
**From Monday to Friday.** From 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Books available and circus drama style reading on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. More info with Sara Flores on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/LaCirco.57789703555373/timeline

**Facebook: Jardín del Arte Los Cabos.**
**Every Tuesday, 8:00 pm.** Documentary Movie Club. A different documentary every week. In the original language with Spanish subtitles. Free. Alfredo Green Cultural House Downtown San Jose.

**Every Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm.** Danzon Afternoons. Traditional Mexican dance classes. Spanish. Free. Leonota Plaza next to the Red Cross. Cabo San Lucas.

**Every Wednesday, 8:00 pm.** Movie Club. Every month a different theme. In the original language with Spanish subtitles. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship’s bow coming out of it.

**Every Wednesday, 5:00 to 10:00 pm.** Art Day. Art, paintings, books, live music. Spanish and English. El Merkado at Koral Center, next to the H+ Hospital. Kilometer 24.5 in the downtown area.

**Every Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 6:00 to 10:00 pm.** Art Fair. Food sampling and wine tasting at the restaurants and shops in the mall. Live music and local artists showcasing their work. Plaza el Pescador across from Cabo Azul resort in the hotel zone. San Jose.

**Every Wednesday, 7:00 pm.** Vagabond Movie Club. A different movie every week in the original languages with Spanish subtitles. More info: 612-145-1056. Free. Todos Santos, at La Posta Del Oasis. Zaragoza St And Rangel Streets

**Every Thursday, 8:00 pm.** Trova and Bohemian Latin-American music. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship's bow coming out of it.

**Every Thursday, 7:00 pm.** Pavilion's Movie Club. A different movie every week. Sometimes in English, sometime other languages with Spanish subtitles. Free. April features films from Spain. Cabo San Lucas' Cultural pavilion, downtown next to the marina.

**Every Thursday, 8:30 pm.** Vagabond Movie Club. A different movie in the original languages with Spanish subtitles. Shorts and features before the movie. Free. Rana Vegana. Playa Migrino St. up from Miguel A. Herrera St. Turn right 2 blocks before the gas station (Pueblo Bonito Sunset area). Pueblo Bonito Sunset area.

**Every Friday, 7:30 pm.** Rock Bands Encounter. Different rock groups every week. Sometimes a real battle of the bands. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship's bow coming out of it.

**Every Friday, 8:00 pm.** Theater night. By the Gesch-ToNoEs Teatro Company. Directed by Emmanuel Novelo. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship's bow coming out of it.

**Every Saturday, 8:00 pm.** Jazz Night. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship’s bow coming out of it.

**Every Saturday, 6:00 to 8:00 pm.** Reading lounge Hermanita de ysabela. At Cafe Cabo inside Plaza Cota. azaro Cabndown Blvd. Downtown Cabo, ext to Bancement bank.

**Every Saturday, 6:30 to 10:00 pm.** PlazaArte. Four hours of arts workshops, music, dance show and family fun. Spanish. Main square in downtown San Jose.

**Every Sunday, 6:00 to 10:00 pm.** Danzon Afternoons. Traditional Mexican romantic dance. Everyone is invited to dance. Spanish. Main square in downtown San Jose.

**Every Sunday.** Vagabond Movie Club presents a different art movie in the original languages with Spanish subtitles. Free. More info: 624-156-8522. Casa Roots, Corner of Mayas and Cuitalhuac in the 4th of Marzo neighborhood, Cabo San Lucas. (Only for adventurous people.)

**Every Sunday, 1:00 pm.** Movies for kids, storyteller, table games and more. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship’s bow coming out of it.

**Every other Sunday, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm.** Every two weeks, four hours of PlazaArte workshops with live music, dance, and different artists. Spanish. Free. Leonota Plaza next to the Red Cross building.

**July 23. Monday.** Theater workshop for teens. Organized by Richard Pinzon as part of the Alas y Raices cultural program. Spanish. More info 624 168 5077. Las Palmas Plaza, where the old movie theaters used to be in San Jose.

From **July 23 until August 3.** From Monday to Friday. From 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Art summer camp for kids at Cerrito del Timbre Cultural House. Painting, dance and theater. Spanish. 300 pesos per kid. More info at the Cultural House office or call 143 0749 in office hours. Cerrito del Timbre Cultural House. Behind Arambrú’s supermarket in downtown cabo San Lucas.

**July 25. Wednesday.** 6:00 pm. Theater of Shadows. Performed by The Cat’s Smile Reading lounge as part of The Reading Summer program. Spanish. Free. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship’s bow coming out of it.

**July 28. August 9. 2018.** September 27, October 27 and November 24. **Saturday, 9:00 pm.** Jaime Martinez in concert. Trova and Mexican music with guest musicians, always to benefit a charity. 100 peso donation. Spanish with some English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship’s bow coming out of it. 624 150 0216.


**August 9, Thursday, 7:00 pm.** Pavilion's Movie Club presents Los Caifanes. (1967) Comedy, Drama. A portrait of the night life in the Mexican capital in the tumultuous and psychedelic sixties. Spanish. Free. Cabo San Lucas’ Cultural Pavilion, downtown next to the marina.

**August 10 and 11, Friday and Saturday, 8:30 p.m.** El Llano en Llamas (The Burning Plain). From the Mario Vargas Llosa Novel. Los Cachorros in the 4th of Marzo neighborhood, Cabo San Lucas. (Only for adventurous people.)

Every **Saturday, 7:00 pm.** Lo Nuestro (What is Own). Cultural Festival with The Los Cabos Youth Orchestra, The Polyphonics Choir, performances from Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat. Spanish with some help in English. 300 pesos donation. Cabo San Lucas. (Only for adventurous people.)

**Continued on PAGE 19**
Now that we have your attention there is something you may need to be reminded of. It is illegal as hell to charter your boat without the proper paperwork. Not just a little illegal, but boat impounding illegal. Doesn’t matter how long you’ve gotten away with it, John Law, (Jose law?) can swoop down anytime.

In the last few weeks an American boat captain, living and working out of the Veracruz area, chartered his vessel, and he only had a tourist visa and no work permit. He was boarded by authorities and in not being able to provide the appropriate documentation, his vessel was seized and he was detained. His documentation, his vessel was able to provide the appropriate paperwork. Not just a little illegality there is something you may need to be reminded of.

Another incident involves another boat owner who evidently was teaching a sailing class from his vessel in the Sea of Cortez. This vessel was also boarded, inspected, and seized. We have no information on what happened to the owner.

We learned from immigration to expect this policy to continue as part of the country’s efforts to deal with the problem of expats working and being paid money in Mexico while in country on a tourist visa. We all know that working and being paid money is illegal. They’ve raised the bar in fundraising every year. It’s grown from something very small to more than 700 people. Now it’s not only fishing but also golf, spas, activities like ziplines, swimming with dolphins, silent auctions, and entertainment in the evenings.

Among the event’s sponsors were Sportfishing Association of California, Pisces Sportfishing, and Galati Yacht Sales.

The evening ended with a bang as Dick Gebhard took a giant check on stage and along with the entire team, announced that this year’s tournament had raised $3.6 Million dollars for all the charities involved. Celebratory fireworks ended the 3 day event.

**FISHING AND GOLF TOURNAMENT... continued from page 3**

am thankful for Stars & Stripes generosity for providing me with the tools that have allowed me to heal physically, emotionally, and mentally,” said Moses.

JoAnn Armstrong, from California, who has been coming down for 8 years says, “this is a well-run event, with very generous donors. They’ve raised the bar in fundraising every year. It’s grown from something very small to more than 700 people. Now it’s not only fishing but also golf, spas, activities like ziplines, swimming with dolphins, silent auctions, and entertainment in the evenings.”

The short answer: Plenty

Spa Cielo has for all of its 12 years in San Jose, been forward thinking in cutting edge preservation of youth and good looks. But now owner/manager Cathy Dammann is branching into the use of recent developments in DNA technology to guide us into being as healthy and feeling as good as she has made us look.

She can guide you into how to run your DNA, and the doctor who heads her program, Dr. Joseph Dib, reviews your entire DNA report with you, interpreting it for you so you know what you’ve got cooking in your genes.

But the value in knowing your DNA is, oftentimes the doctor can get into a gene that has run amuck compensate for it. It is a little scary to peek into the future and see your potentially gravely ill self, but wouldn’t it be worth that fright if it can be fixed? Or even if it can’t be fixed today, to know that technology is coming at us so fast, that it will probably be fixable in a few years, and that you will watch for that development? You owe it to yourself to run your DNA now. Your future self and your loved ones, will thank you.

Imagine finding a magic window; one that’s a bit smudged and cloudy, but also a window with enough cleared areas to allow us new and revealing glimpses into our own turbulent history; long past. Here is one book that attempts to do so.

The author begins this book on a less than cheery and optimistic note: “...Latin America was precocious; it has specialized in losing, ever since those remote times when Europeans ventured across the ocean and buried their teeth in the throats of the Indian civilization.” I shuddered. Nonetheless, I continued reading.

This book has three parts, and seven chapters. Part One...Lust for Gold, Part Two...King Sugar, and Part Three...Invisible Sources of Power. Each section of this book is a separate and fascinating read, and each allowed me to pretend I could actually get into the minds of those first very curious and brave, but also, so very greedy and cruel European explorers/conquistadors/settlers.

The world known to most ordinary European citizens in that earliest era of naval exploration usually kept boundaries to the familiar shores of their own side of the Atlantic Ocean. On the opposite side of the world, and in most of the complex ‘New World’ cultures, natives had little to no idea of what might lie across the vast waters to their east. Thus, the first meeting of East and West became a violent clash of cultures that changed world history.

I still find it hard to get my mind around the fact that each of these two worlds and cultures had little to no knowledge of the other, and this world view gives us one more telling of “the world treating the dead better than the living”, and so, in her forward, she informs us that she is attempting to give us the true voices of all poor and oppressed. I do recommend reading this book of history, as a great help in gaining still one more glimpse and view of the complicated, and not always altruistic, history of our planet.

You can obtain this book on Amazon.com. Jeannine Perez owns El Callelro Blanco bookstore in Loreto. betojeannine@gmail.com. She welcomes all comments.

The president elect wants to change that, saying, “There are regions like the Bajío, the Rivera Maya, some border cities and some regions in the center of the country that have growth of 5% to 8% but other places instead of growing, they decline,” López Obrador said. “It’s not fair or advisable that public and private investment be concentrated only in some areas of the country.” So he’s picking up and moving some of that federal bureaucracy. The first departments to be moved will be the Secretariat of Tourism to Quintana Roo, (think Cancun), and the Secretariat of the Environment to Mérida, Yucatán. Well, OK, but please remember Baja Sr. Secretary of Tourism...!

Try again. President-elect López Obrador’s proposed tourist train between Cancun and Tulum is a retreat of the train current President Pena Nieto promised us when he first took office. The 80 mile project was shelved then because there was no money for it. The President-elect didn’t say what hat he planned on pulling the $3.5 billion out of. So what about us? Hows about a cool train in the Baja? We could totally see a train going from the border to Cabo.

Large selection of current nonfiction books and surprising finds

On the four lane KM 4.5 Under Cabo Fitness. Ph (624) 105-9692
In the strip mall across from Costco
**My God, How Hot Is It?**

It’s so hot... I saw a chicken lay an omelette

It’s so hot... I saw a squirrel picking up nuts with pot holders

It’s so hot... I saw a funeral procession pull thru a Dairy Queen

It’s so hot... Jehovah’s Witnesses started telemarketing

It’s so hot... I saw the devil in Wal-Mart buying an air conditioner

It’s so hot... You can wash and dry your clothes at the same time

It’s so hot... I saw two trees fighting over a dog

It’s so hot... Cows are giving powdered milk

It’s so hot... My thermometer goes up to “Are you kidding me?”

It’s so hot... I bought a loaf of bread and before I got home it was toast

It’s so hot... I got condensation on my butt from the water in the toilet bowl

It’s so hot... my Reese’s peanut butter cups turned into Reese’s peanut butter shooters

It’s so hot... my change melted into a medallion in my purse

It’s so hot... my dream house is any house in Alaska.

It’s so hot... cows are giving evaporated milk.

It’s so hot... I saw a bird pull a worm out of the ground with an oven mitt.

It’s so hot... chickens are laying hard-boiled eggs.

It’s so hot... they installed a fan in the debt ceiling.

It’s so hot... polar bears are wearing sunscreen.

It’s so hot... I discovered my seat belt makes a pretty good branding iron.

It’s so hot... I started putting ice-cubes in my watering pot.

It’s so hot... Siri asked to be dipped in a glass of ice water.

It’s so hot... bums are holding signs that read, “Will work for shade.”

It’s so hot... hot water comes out of both taps.

It’s so hot... you can attend any function wearing shorts and a tank top.

It’s so hot... your biggest fear of a wreck on the fourlane is, “What if I get knocked out and end up lying on the pavement and cook to death?”

It’s so hot... you eat hot chiles to cool off your mouth.

**Let’s Go to a Secluded Beach!**

With fabulous hotel rooms, food and drinks!

There is no place in Cabo or San Jose as inviting, tranquil, and enjoyable as the Vidasoul Hotel and Crossroads Country Club on the East Cape. Me and my better half keep going back because just driving to Vinoramas is like taking a ride on the wild side of the peninsula. Unlike Cabo San Lucas, San Jose del Cabo, Todos Santos and all of the beach towns on the Pacific side, the East Cape offers amazing World-class sunrises (this alone is worth the trip), quiet unpopulated beaches, sunsets to die for, and starry, starry nights.

The Hotel Vidasoul is a very unique and modern 16 room beachfront hotel. It sits alone on an isolated beach located between World-Class surf breaks and World-Class diving and snorkeling. Go on an ATV guided tour to locations North, Cabo Pulmo, or the fabulous sand dunes. Los Arbolitos National Marine Park has fabulous snorkeling and incredible rock formations and caves. Santiago offers falls and hot springs. To the South you can ride horses nearby or surf the popular breaks Punta Perfecta, 9 Palms and Shipwrecks.

Their restaurant The Crossroads Country Club is proclaimed to be some of the best food on the East Cape with fabulous complex flavors and presentations. Rooms are available starting at $120. Or try one of the large ocean front suites with bathtubs that overlook the Sea of Cortes.

Call/eMail and ask about their Summer, honeymoon and wedding packages. Look for them on Facebook for updates on the entertainment.

Reservations and information 624 142-1165 M-F 9-4 and Sat. 9-1, or Cell. 624 154-6966 or US 1-626-84-0485. Both numbers also available on What’s App also.

For a quick response info@vidasoul.com or joan@vidasoul.com.


**Beautiful Ocean View Home FOR SALE**

*Casa de amigos*

Exceptional Property double lot home on the bluff with 180 degree view in the private residential community of La Jolla de los Cabos, San Jose del Cabo. 5,873sqm² For 5,175,000.00 USA.

See a video of this Property: http://bit.ly/casadeamigos

Email: terralinproperties@outlook.es • d.loren@yahoo.com

Cell number: 624 122 29712 or 624 122 0226

**follow us on facebook**

**Gringo Gazette Cabo**
UNDENOTED MEXICANS A PROBLEM IN MEXICO, TOO

Many Mexicans fail to register their children’s birth

BY JOHN DOE

Millions of undocumented migrants live a shadow existence in the United States, but it may come as a surprise that south of the border, Mexico has a shadow population of its own. It’s made up of Mexicans who lack a formal birth certificate and are technically invisible in their own country. They can’t vote, get a school diploma or practice a profession.

Tourism in this region is a big employer, particularly for the poorest job seekers in nearby mountain communities. But some won’t be hired in places like hotels and restaurants because they have no documents establishing their legal identity.

Octavio Martinez is known as the man who brings these people back from oblivion. He is a community organizer who works tirelessly to bring these people back from oblivion. On a recent afternoon he rides in a battered old minivan with no air conditioning. Martinez doesn’t drive himself because he’s paralyzed from the waist down. Six years ago, when he was working in law enforcement, criminals shot at his car. A bullet struck his spinal cord and forever changed his life.

He’s also built a generous network of friends from taxi drivers to attorneys who are quick to lend a hand when he needs it.

A young woman signals to Martinez from the sidewalk. She wears a torn tank top and grasps the hand of a toddler by her side. “You’re the one who does the civil registries, right?” she asks. Her husband needs to get his paperwork in order. She asks how much it costs and they agree to meet over the weekend.

Mexico’s National Registry estimates that seven million to nine million Mexicans are without a proper birth certificate. Unlike the United States, babies aren’t automatically registered at birth. Mexican parents must take their newborns to the local civil registry office. Those who don’t, typically live in Mexico’s rural or indigenous regions or are extremely poor and uneducated. A lot of these people don’t understand the importance of having a birth certificate until they have to get their children enrolled in school and by then the children are five or six years old and they have to pay fees. People who live on less than $5 a day look on a birth certificate as a luxury.

On his own, Martinez registers hundreds of people per year. In the 15 years he’s been a community organizer he estimates he’s helped some 10,000 people. The city acknowledges the importance of his work by paying him a $275 stipend twice a month. Most of it goes to paying expenses. Martinez and his wife mostly live off a convenience store they run from home. On a recent family visit, Martinez traveled 20 minutes out of town on a rugged dirt road. The woman he met needed to get her boy registered. He’s nine years old and can’t get credit for school. “We now know that registering your child is important,” his mother said. “Without a birth certificate it’s like they don’t exist.”

Undocumented Mexicans are sentenced to a life with little promise. Not only are they deprived of an education and a formal job -- they can’t open a bank account, get legally married or register their own children. Even worse, they are often targeted by organized crime, either as a victim or a recruit. Not having a formal identity makes it extremely hard for police to track them down.

Noe Emmanuel is one of millions of Mexicans without a birth certificate. Without a legal form of identification he can’t get a school diploma or, later, a formal job. Just recently a church group helped

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22
Island Beach Frolic
Cruising the Sea of Cortez

BY CATHY WATKINS

Lounging on the deck of a catamaran as it sails north of La Paz is a great way to spend a leisurely day. Three different tours are available on a big private yacht: Swimming with the whale sharks (from October to April), Baja remote beaches with the sea lions, and Isla Espiritu Santo.

The Island Cat is a beautiful and spacious catamaran with a professional crew, all of whom are informative, friendly and provide excellent service. Chris is the captain. He earned his 100-ton master’s captain license from the U.S. Coast Guard. Scott is an amazing chef and also a licensed coast, Scott cooks up a breakfast of scrambled eggs, salsa, tortillas, bacon, yogurt, donuts, and fresh fruit, all served in the air-conditioned cabin. While all this was being cooked up, we were lying on deck soaking up the sun and half listening to the marine biologist rattling on about the critters below the surface. Scott barely got the breakfast dishes cleared before he was offering up a mid-morning snack of fresh guacamole with salsa and chips. There’s no shortage of food or The first stop is Lovers Cove. There we all, (six of us), clamber onboard a panga, (dingy) we’ve been towing behind us, which no one even noticed before this. (Well, I didn’t) our marine biologist explains about the reef, wild-life, and the sea environment as we glide around the crystal clear turquoise water of varying hues. As the boat approaches a rocky area known as San Rafaelito, we can hear the nearly constant barking of the sea lions. This is where we get to snorkel and swim with the sea lions and their pups.

Have you seen these popping up around town? They’re kind of cryptic, they’re doing a subtle marketing job for the ATP tennis tournament coming July 30. (Holy Spirit Island). We went on the Baja remote beaches tour and had a fabulous time. We went to Lovers Cove, Banderas Bay, and San Rafaelito, a rocky area with a lighthouse and more sea lions than you can shake a fin at.

The tour includes food, open bar all day, water activities, and round-trip van ride from Cabo to the boat in La Paz. The boat goes out of La Paz because the water is so much nicer there, and because the islands with their beautiful empty beaches and deep coves makes it more fun. We leave Cabo at 6:45 in the morning and return around 5, so it’s a full day. It takes about two hours to get to La Paz. The boat goes.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22
Cabo Is The Nicest  
Four letter Word
And here’s why

BY JOHN VERING

Cabo. It’s the world’s nicest four-letter-word, evocative of swaying palms and glorious stretches of golden sand, of leaping marlin and breaching whales, of fish tacos and endless fiestas.

It is, in many ways, a picture postcard come to life, a dream destination, a paradise. The beaches are beautiful beyond words, thanks to a tropical climate that brings some 350 days of sunshine each year, and an absolutely unbeatble location. Los Cabos – the municipality which includes cape cities Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo – is set on the southernmost rim of the nearly 800-mile-long Baja California peninsula, framed majestically by towering interior mountains, sculpted desert, and the meeting place of two magnificent bodies of water: the Pacific Ocean and Sea of Cortez, which come together just beyond the breathtaking granite monuments at Land’s End.

This astonishing geographical confluence has created a modern land of plenty, a sun-kissed nirvana boasting perfect conditions for virtually every outdoor activity imaginable. Los Cabos, or The Capes, or more simply yet Cabo is famed around the globe for its phenomenal big-game sport fishing, its seasonal whale watching and year-round surfing, its incredible snorkeling and diving at a diverse array of undersea sites, from ship-wrecks and secluded coves to the living coral reef at Cabo Pulmo.

The possibilities for water-based adventure here are nearly limitless, as are opportunities to seek out and discover new perspectives on land.

Legendary movie stars like Paul Newman and Steve McQueen once braved rough and rugged conditions to compete in the peninsula’s iconic off-road race, the Baja 1000. Today, dune buggy and jeep tours regularly take intrepid travelers deep into the hidden heart of what, until recently, has been Mexico’s most lightly populated state. Camping and climbing, too, offer heart-racing ascents, stunning vistas, and up-close looks at the region’s unique flora and fauna.

For decades, snowbirds and those seeking an “endless summer” have been flocking to Los Cabos to indulge in these and other pleasures; their numbers, their frequency and their migratory range growing steadily year after year. As the tourism numbers have continued to increase, so too have the big-name resorts and five-star amenities.

Some of the world’s top culinary names, for example, now have restaurants in Los Cabos, including Richard Sandoval, Enrique Olvera, Nobu Matsuhisa and Jean-Georges Vongerichten. Los Cabos now dominates annual rankings of the best spas in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the best golf courses. Major champions Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman, Fred Couples and Tiger Woods are among the high-profile golfers who have designed layouts in Los Cabos, and three of the region’s 15 currently operating courses are ranked among the 100 best in the world.

Not surprisingly, this litany of lifestyle charms has led many to follow a corresponding line of questions, beginning with: Why don’t more people move here? Why don’t I move here?

Why not relocate to Cabo San Lucas or neighboring coastal communities in Los Cabos? The short answer is that many already have. Los Cabos is home to an estimated 15,000 residents from the U.S. and Canada, who have chosen to live in paradise either full or part-time because of its stunning natural beauty and abundant lifestyle perks; which, amazingly enough, also come with a lower cost of living and, in many instances, lower real estate prices.

Simply put, this dream des-

Avoid Emotion When Selling A Home
It can very well mean more money for you

BY WENDY KNAPP

Selling a house can be tough. It can be even tougher if you’re forced to sell your home for financial reasons and don’t have much money to make pre-sale fixes or upgrades.

Don’t take buyer’s critiques personally because a seller’s intense emotional response has the potential to torpedo a sale. Selling a house can be an emotional roller coaster, and you need to manage those feelings.

By Wendy Knapp, broker of Rionda & Knapp. Contact Wendy for more information at (624) 118-1395, wendy@rionda-knapp.com or http://www.rionda-knapp.com

Keep an open mind on low offers. Unless you have multiple stronger offers in hand, it’s usually a mistake to reject a bid that comes in low. Most buyers expect a counter to their offer, don’t be insulted.

San Jose Featured Property

Solaz Residences

Experience the Exclusive and Magical Lifestyle of Solaz Residences! Contemporary Design & Architecture; Heavenly Coastlines; Private Pool and Jacuzzi; Turquoise Waters of the Sea of Cortez. A Nature-Inspired Refuge that is meant to bring Balance, Harmony and Freedom to a Privileged Few!

We are all increasingly defined by work and stress, which is why a hideaway from this hectic lifestyle is Crucial, find it here. FIND YOUR SOLAZ! All 5-Star High class Amenities of a Luxury Resort at your fingertips: Pools, Spa, Restaurants, Gym & Kids Club. Your Beautiful BEACHFRONT Home, equipped with everything YOU need.

Full Ownership Real Estate — Be a part of this Journey and Luxury! Only 21 Homes. 30% Sold. 16 homes Remain.

Contact Natalie Evaniew ReMax Cabo San Lucas for your private viewing! info@NatalieEvaniew.com or 011 52 1 624 217 9562 – Mexico Cell.

To search all of the listings available in the MLS, visit: www.mlsinbajasur.com

SUPPORTED BY MLS

To search all of the listings available in the MLS, visit: www.mlsinbajasur.com

SUPPORTED BY MLS

To search all of the listings available in the MLS, visit: www.mlsinbajasur.com
Purchasing Property

Here is how it works here

BY WILLIAM SCOTT

Purchasing a property in Mexico might seem like a complicated process, but the reality can be quite different. Our team at Baja Smart will help you navigate through the purchasing process every step of the way (no matter where you are in the world), ensuring an informed, secure and successful transaction.

There are five common steps in completing the process of real estate acquisition here in Baja California Sur: the Offer, the Contract, Third Party Escrow, a Bank Trust (or ‘Fideicomiso’ in Spanish), and the Escrow, a Bank Trust (or ‘Fideicomiso’ in Spanish), and the process in order to achieve for you the best possible price.

1. Offer.
   We work with the buyer to put together their best offer. We are equipped with the resources, information and negotiation ex-

2. Contract.
   When the offer is accepted our closing agent will compose a legal document, termed an Escrow Agreement, covering all the information agreed on by the buyer and seller.

3. Third Party Escrow.
   By using third party escrow, your money remains safe until the property title is officially transferred to you. We use several companies that provide us great service and our clients are very happy. Fidelity National Title, Stewart Title Los Cabos are foreigner in Mexico.

4. Bank Trust / Fideicomiso.
   The closing agent guides this process. The Fideicomiso is the official documentation necessary to own coastal real estate as a foreigner in Mexico.

5. Closing.
   When the closing agent has completed all details of the process, then the Notario Publico will transfer the title from owner to buyer.

By William Scott, Broker of Baja Smart. Contact William at Office Phone: +52(624) 122-1948, Mobile - +52(624) 122-1948, william@bajasmart.com, http://www.bajasmart.com

At Baja Smart we take our business seriously. Buying property in a different country can seem daunting, but our team will make sure that you’re protected, informed and guided through every step of the process. If you’re ready to take the plunge and live your dream in Baja Sur, we’re ready to help make that a reality!

Expatriates And The Proposed Tax Bill

Things will be different

BY DON D. NELSON

All US expatriates are concerned what effect the pending Republican tax plan might have on their taxes while abroad. The good news is that the foreign earned income exclusion which is $102,100 for 2017 so far has not been mentioned in the bill and therefore if currently likely to remain the same for 2017 and perhaps beyond. This means if you are living and working abroad, you can earn (either as self-employed or as an employee) up to this amount and not be liable for any US tax on that income. Remember that the exclusion is not automatic. You must file a timely tax return to claim it. If you file your return 18 months after its due date the IRS can disallow the exclusion.

Some items that if passed (in the bill as of 11/5/17) will affect your US return are:

• Increase the standard deduction (if you do not itemize) to $24,000.

• Deletion of dependent exemption which is currently $4,050 for yourself and your dependents.

• Eliminate the possibility to deduct state income taxes.

• Eliminate the deduction for casualty losses (such as those incurred from hurricanes and floods)

• Decreases the deduction for home mortgage interest to that incurred on a $500,000 loan (previously $1,100,000 loan interest)

• Require that you live in your primary residence for 5 out of past 8 years to get the $500,000 gain exclusion.

• Many more deductions which primarily benefit the middle class are scheduled to be eliminated. The entire pending bill if taken as a whole significantly benefits the wealthy and large corporations and in most situations give no or only a small benefit to the middle class taxpayer. Those politicians who claim it will benefit the middle class are using smoke and mirrors.

• Note that everything mentioned above is subject to change as the tax bill moves through the legislative process and until the final tax bill is passed and signed by the President.

Don D. Nelson is a US attorney specializing in expatriate and international taxes for over 30 years. He is a partner in Kaufmann Nelson LLP. Certified Public Accountants. He can be reached at ddnelson@gmail.com. His website is at www.taxmeless.com.
The Mexican Association of Real Estate Professionals (AMPI) is one of 89 organized associations having a formal relationship with the National Association of Realtors®. AMPI members have access to a plethora of NAR Designations.

The National Association of REALTORS® is America’s largest trade association, representing 1.2 million members, including NAR’s institutes, societies, and councils, involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

NAR and its affiliated Institutes, Societies, and Councils provide a wide-range of programs and services that help members increase their skills, proficiency, and knowledge. Designations and certifications acknowledging experience and expertise in various real estate industries are awarded by NAR and each affiliated group upon completion of required courses.

November was a great month for Certified International Property Specialists (CIPS) Designees. At the CIPS breakfast held at the Realtors Annual Conference and Expo, 300 Designees received their PINS and Certificates. The ceremony was held in the ballroom at the Chicago Marriott. Participating in the ceremony were the CIPS Instructors who formed a receiving line to greet the new Designees. There are now over 3,500 Designees spread around the Globe. To earn the prestigious award, applicants must attend five days of classes, pass an exam and complete at least one international real estate transaction.

During the Conference Elizabeth Mendenhall from Columbia, Missouri was installed as the new NAR President. She is a sixth generation REALTOR®. Her father Richard was NAR President in 2001.

For further information: John, glaab@settlement-co.com, www.settlement-co.com, Rentaltaxmexico@settlement-co.com, THE SETTLEMENT COMPANY, www.settlement-co.com

As in other countries, owners of rental properties in Mexico are required to pay taxes on their rental income. Failure to pay the Mexican government can result (and has resulted) in substantial penalties and legal problems.

By John Glaab

CABO IS THE NICEST FOUR...
continued from page 15

Cabo is one of the most beautiful coastal areas in the world. The fact that Cabo San Lucas is such a popular destination can very easily become a reality, and there has never been a better time to buy property in Los Cabos than right now.

That may sound like a marketing slogan, but it’s absolutely true. Since 2014, Los Cabos has been in the midst of an unprecedented building boom, with a host of fabulous new resorts and real estate developments underway or already completed in Cabo San Lucas, San José del Cabo, and along the 20-mile coastal corridor which connects them. Even the municipality’s hitherto sparsely populated East Cape, 70-miles of gorgeous coastline stretching northeast from San José del Cabo to the Bay of Palms, has become a focus of development, with a new Four Seasons resort and other picturesque ocean view properties nearing completion.

There’s a remarkable selection of beautiful new homes and villas available, and they’re available at a wide variety of price points, and at a wide variety of scenic locations around the coastal rim of Los Cabos...including in some spectacular never before developed areas.

Of course, deciding to relocate is never an easy decision, and many more questions have to be answered – to the satisfaction of everyone involved – before the dream can start to become a reality.

Are the people friendly? Is it a good place to raise a family? What are the challenges and impediments? Do I need to know Spanish or become a legal resident? The answers to all of these questions, by the way, are reassuringly positive.

The people of Los Cabos, like the vast majority of people across Mexico, are warm, friendly and industrious. Los Cabos is in fact a melting pot that has attracted ambitious workers from all over the world. Yes, Spanish is the official language, but because so many people work in the tourism sector, English is commonly spoken. It’s not difficult to communicate, nor is it difficult to hire support staff.

The transition to life here is in fact, invariably smooth. That doesn’t mean relocation isn’t a great opportunity to learn another language and culture, and indeed the area’s excellent bilingual private schools are one of many reasons – beyond an active lifestyle – that Los Cabos is an excellent option for families raising children.

It also remains quite easy for newcomers to become temp- ory residents of Mexico...or even to acquire dual citizenship. There are local agencies that specialize in this sort of paperwork, just there are companies that specialize, for example, in moving household goods and furniture from the U.S. to Los Cabos.

Because people have been making the decision to relocate for decades now, an infrastructure has developed over time to facilitate the process and alleviate the traditional difficulties. The impediments are very slight and easily overcome.

Cabo is a place where life is never very complicated in paradise. That’s one of the reasons it’s paradise...

By John R. Vering, Owner/Broker of Windermere Real Estate
Los Cabos, Mexico Office (624) 131-3330, Mexico Cell 52 1 (624) 191-0325, U.S. Toll Free (855) 877-2226, windermereLosCabs.com.

Real Estate and Education

What’s going on globally

Sales Manager Profile

Deborah Reubens

Born & raised in Southern California, Deborah worked in the film and music industries for many years. With the fast-paced lifestyle of Los Angeles, it was mandatory to spend quality vacations where she found the joys and serenity of Los Cabos so inviting.

For more information contact Deborah Reubens, Luxury Property Specialist at ReMexico Real Estate, Office Phone - (209) 779-5404, Mobile - +52(624) 137-3980 U.S. Cell - (209) 779-5404, cabo@deborahreubens.com, http://www.CaboRealEstate.com.

SOLD

Condo Mary y Sol, Costa Azul. Delightful ocean view residence in Mary y Sol, a low density, eleven unit enclave in San Jose del Cabo’s blue coast area. MLS 17-2129 $162,000, Jensen - The Agency Los Cabos and L.Jarvis - Cabo Crib

Pescadero Beachfront, MLS 16-14, 1952 m2 of beachfront land with many sandy beaches and sereneries. $269,000 USD, M.Balch/vista del mar and C. Miller/Baja Realty and Investment.

Calafia #156 Cabo Corridor MLS#118-621 $170,000 USD 2BR- 2BA Fully Furnished, Gated community J.Garnier & O.Narvaez/Cabo Linda and D. Auerbach / A & B Real Estate Firm

Casa Mika Cabo Corridor MLS# 14-71, $295,000 USD 4BD- 3BA short walking distance to swimmable beach M.Gallegos/ Cabo Linda.

Misiones #6201 Cabo Corridor MLS#17-1347 $410,000 USD 2BR- 2BA totally remodeled S.Buxbaum/Cabo 4Sale and L.Miller/Cabo Linda

The Residences at La Vista CSL MLS#16-1766 $575,000 USD 3BD-3.5BA Every room has Sea of Cortez views & Marina views J.Schmidt/Los Cabos Agent and L.Miller/Cabo Linda

Rolling Hills Estates

MODEL HOME NOW OPEN DAILY FROM 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

Office: (621) 143-5011 US/CAN: (459) 626-7383 e-mail: rollinghills-cabo@hotmail.com

www.caboroollinghills.com

3BR, 2 1/2 Baths, Garage, Infinity Pool Upgrades and Amenities / Ocean Views / 2,400 sq ft

REAL ESTATE SECTION

17
Toxic Investment For Americans In Mexico

They’re called AFORE

BY ORLANDO GOTAY

Many of my readers live in Mexico, enjoying retirement funded by US-based pension plans. US persons who work in Mexico, however, may have been offered a local financial vehicle known as an AFORE account. AFOREs are Mexico’s versions of what you and I may visualize as 401(k) accounts.

There are big differences as well. Because these are foreign retirement plans, established according to non-US rules, they are not recognized as “qualified plans” from the IRS’s perspective. Because of that, very different IRS rules apply to them. In a nutshell, they have virtually none of the tax benefits of US-qualified plans. The retirement accounts? Nada.

says about AFOREs, the Mexican tax people and say “why didn’t you tell me this?” is, it’s not their job to warn Americans as to the US tax consequences of a Mexican financial product. To them, it’s an innocuous thing, because they see it from the normal, Mexican perspective. To them, it is a great tax-deferred vehicle. To Americans, AFOREs and their ilk may be the financial equivalent of Ebola.

You say you don’t have an AFORE account? What about your Mexican spouse? I don’t mean to scaremonger, at all, just to open my reader’s eyes as to the many tax issues that arise from being a US person who lives, works and plays outside the United States. More to follow.

Orlando Gotay is a California licensed tax attorney (with a Master of Laws in Taxation) admitted to practice before the IRS, the U.S. Tax Court and other taxing agencies. His love of things Mexican has led him to devote part of his practice to the tax matters of U.S. expats in Mexico. He can be reached at tax@orlandogotay.com, online radio at mixlr.com/orlandogotay or Facebook: GotayTaxLawyer.

Paella has ancient roots but got its modern form in the mid-19th century in the area around Albufera Lagoon on the east coast of Spain adjacent to the city of Valencia.

Types of paella include Valencian paella, vegetable paella, and mixed paella, among many others. Valencian paella is believed to be the original recipe and consists of white rice, green beans, meat (chicken, duck and rabbit), white beans, snails, and seasonings such as saffron and rosemary.

A paella fest is kind of like a chili cookoff, with booths of cooks set up and crowds of people wandering around sampling the various recipes and voting on them. Paella is traditionally cooked in a pan that looks like a giant wok. Stay tuned for details on the festival as we get closer to the kick off.

More celebrities do Cabo. Mexican model April Love Geary on Saturday, November 3. CONTINUED ON PAGE 22
Finishing projects that are already under way, reviewing programs currently in place and not undertaking new, grandiose ventures will be among the tourism priorities of the next federal government, according to the man who will be Mexico's new tourism secretary.

Miguel Torruco will be our next top federal tourism leader. President elect Lopez Obrador, promised.

Miguel Torruco will be the president of the Cancun Hotel Ass, promised support for the new guy, and promised they would get a handle on the latest infestation of stinky ugly seaweed that has invaded their beaches. And, oh yes, they could use some help with that periodic problem.

Meanwhile, Roberto Cintrón, the president of the Cancun Hotel Ass, promised support for the new guy, and promised they would get a handle on the latest infestation of stinky ugly seaweed that has invaded their beaches. And, oh yes, they could use some help with that periodic problem.

Torruco said that diversifying the tourism market to avoid over-dependence on United States visitors would continue to be a priority for the next government.

The future secretary said he was committed to stamping out corruption in the tourism secretariat and implementing cost-cutting measures such as eliminating first-class travel for high-ranking officials. "We will continue to have the same budget at Sectur, (the Secretariat of Tourism) but there is going to be a salary reduction for those at the top to increase salaries for those at the bottom."

Towns) program, saying the parameters and objectives have become unclear and that the designation now gets handed out like candy. To become a magic town, there has to be something special about it. Todos Santos, 45 minutes up the Pacific from Cabo San Lucas, is a magic town. It’s small, old, quaint, and active as an art colony. This designation got it a lot of free publicity in the magical town status, it must not only meet certain requirements that make it worthy of the name but also that agreements with municipal, state and federal authorities as well as the private sector must be in place to ensure that it is funded and developed as it should be. And that has been a complaint by some magic town citizens. That there are certain programs that must be implemented and some of them are costly. The incoming secretary cited San Cristobal in Chiapas as an example of a destination that received the magical town designation but failed to meet the objectives of the program due to a lack of funding.

Meanwhile, Roberto Cintrón, the president of the Cancun Hotel Ass, promised support for the new guy, and promised they would get a handle on the latest infestation of stinky ugly seaweed that has invaded their beaches. And, oh yes, they could use some help with that periodic problem.

Torruco said that diversifying the tourism market to avoid over-dependence on United States visitors would continue to be a priority for the next government.

The future secretary said he was committed to stamping out corruption in the tourism secretariat and implementing cost-cutting measures such as eliminating first-class travel for high-ranking officials. "We will continue to have the same budget at Sectur, (the Secretariat of Tourism) but there is going to be a salary reduction for those at the top to increase salaries for those at the bottom."

Luna Itzel, Mexico is Singing. Mexican music concert by the local singer Luna Itzel to benefit fight against cancer Eunice Ruelas. Spanish and some help in English. 200 pesos donation. You can call them, ask them to come out and check that meter one more time, but if the meter is incorrect, you’re screwed. You pay what’s on the meter or you’ll be cooking over candles.

If you have a smart solar system that allows you to see your consumption digitally you have proof of your consumption which you can use to show their meter is whacked out. Upon this proof, they will back down.

So what’s a good solar company? There might be lots of them but we only hear about Innovation Solar in Cabo San Lucas. If cutting the cord to CFE appeals to you, give Francisco Vargas a shout. He’s at 624 105 9478. www.innovationsolar.mx.

By Dick Fitzwell
This is why you don’t throw your plastic in the ocean

WHAT’S GOING ON IN THIS...
continued from page 11

Mexican fourth the world for women’s legislative representation, and it will be the only country with an elected senate that is majority female.

Across the board, Mexican women won big in this month’s elections. The second most important political position in the country (mayor of Mexico City) also went to a woman. Women will make up 50 percent of most state legislatures. Women’s wins are the result of 15 years of electoral reforms, in which Mexico incrementally refined the affirmative action rules that compel political parties to nominate women. Oh, the parties tried to get around these laws, even nominating men who claimed to be transgender. In a country where domestic partner abuse is rampant and often winked at, maybe things will improve there, too.

More tourists, please! Rodríguez Esponda, managing director of the Los Cabos Tourism Board, is hopping on the president-elect’s bandwagon, saying he will be good for the industry. He also announced that next season there will be new direct flights to Los Cabos from Chicago’s Midway, Ottawa, Milwaukee, and Cincinnati. Cold places, coinky dink? According to Esponda, Los Cabos has the most expensive hotel rate in the country, averaging about $300 per night.

State visit. Last week Mike Pompeo, the US Secretary of State, visited first the sitting President of the Republic, and then the president-elect, all in one busy day.

Along with Pompeo came Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, the secretary of National Security, and the son-in-law Jared Kushner. The delegation wants a chit chat on immigration issues and drug trafficking.

The US Treasury guy will meet with Mexico’s treasury guy, most likely about the NAFTA talks which seem to be going nowhere.

Abortion rights gets boost. The incoming president was an early champion of abortion rights when he was mayor of Mexico City and now his future

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23
I hardly ever give you any Mexican dessert recipes, right? Well, here is one.

There is a huge story behind sugar cane plantations and the topic is quite controversial among farmers around the country. This is one crop that was not born in Mexico, but it was embraced and made what it is now by our people. Sugarcane was brought to Mexico by Spanish settlers. Many major plantations were established, spreading from here to the Caribbean and Brazil. Mexico's indigenous population provided a resident labor force, augmented by the introduction of some slaves from Africa, which is how the Afro Mexican race was born. Before 1810 there were more people of African descent in Mexico than Spanish! The large colonial sugar haciendas in Mexico -boy were they huge, and beautiful- had huge influences over politics and local economies. Sugar cane remained an important crop after the Mexican Revolution (1910 onwards, like about a decade), which led to rural revolt and much stricter controls on the size of land holdings. Sugarcane was grown on 150,000 farms, making their average size small, under 4.5 hectares (11 acres) each. This is partly a consequence of the Mexican Revolution which limited maximum farm size. About half of all sugarcane production units are 2 hectares or less in area. The small average size of sugar cane farms places severe restrictions on possible investments and effectively prevents any economies of scale.

Sugar is one of the main ingredients in flan, which is gluten free! It is also a Mexican desert that was nationalized from a Spanish desert, and it can be found from the smallest eateries and street food joints to high end restaurants and resorts. It is a crowd pleaser, and no matter how you pronounce it, it has a way of hitting a special sweet spot after a delicious meal.

Flan has a story as old as time, starting from the Roman Empire. It was during Roman times that domesticated chickens were first kept for laying eggs. The Romans, with eggs in surplus, and consulting the Greek’s knowledge of the art of cooking, developed new recipes, one of which turned out to be a custardy concoction known as flan. It was originally a savory dish (not sweet, but aromatic and pleasing to the palate). The Roman Empire was destined to fall and, on its ruins, arose Medieval society. Yet the Roman influence, the Moors brought the richness of flan with them to Spain and then shipped it. Nearly all Central and South America loves flan in its various custardy forms. It has become especially associated with Mexico where flan is produced in the kitchens of rich and poor alike. The base of this desert is eggs and milk, and it is cooked with a double boiler method until it becomes silky smooth, light and fluffy. The flavor of flan is subtle, topped off with a light caramel which makes the taste buds in your mouth sing.

A few pro tips before we jump to it:

THIS IS NOT A HARD dessert no matter how many Mexican abuelitas, (grandmothers), try to scare you off. Try it, be patient and follow your instincts. It’s easier to make a flan in a bigger mold than in several small ones. There is a special mold too, sold at most supermarkets, which makes things a lot easier.

This recipe calls for vanilla and I strongly suggest you use the real kind, no cheap nonsense. Since flan is first baked and then refrigerated to be served cold, this recipe will take about five hours overall, but only 10 minutes to prepare.

Ingredients:
-3 egg yolks
-1 cup whole milk
-1 cup white sugar
-1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
-1 tablespoon grated orange peel (optional)
-1/4 cup freshly squeezed orange juice (optional, I like it better without OJ!)
-1 teaspoon vanilla extract
-1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
-1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
-1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
-1/16 teaspoon ground allspice
-1/8 teaspoon ground mace
-1/8 teaspoon ground ginger

Flan is as now a staple in Mexico but originated long ago and far away.
Good Bye To Annoying Sidewalk Cracks—Sort Of

Let's all go out with a paint brush and a pot of paint and spiff up the messes our city fathers are leaving us with. At least with a cute little polar bear enjoying our broken sidewalk, it will be a source of amusement and maybe just a little less annoying. And dangerous.

ISLAND BEACH FROLIC... continued from page 14

sailor gear and wet suits are provided, and Leo the guide briefs everyone about the rules. No stepping on the reef because it damages the coral. If a large sea lion is blowing bubbles and coming at you, swim backwards. Yes, you can swim backwards if a big papa sea lion is swimming towards you, you will be surprised at your water skills. If you are tired, we are told, wave your hand and Mariana, who is womanning the boat, will put over to pick you up. Once in the water, Leo makes sure everyone is comfortable with their equipment, and then leads the way over the coral reef teaming with different types of tropical fish. Before I knew it, a pup playfully dashes by...

Back on board the Island Cat, Captain Chris takes the boat north to Balandra Bay. Here you can see the iconic mushroom rock of La Paz and go for another swim. It's also an opportunity to kayak, paddle board, or snorkel with Leo offering lessons. Some of us chose to float around in the water, and sure enough here comes Leo on the paddle board with an icy bucket of cold beers at this feet. Now that's service! Meanwhile, Scott is cooking up a scrumptious lunch for everyone. He has prepared shredded beef tacos and habanero-mango chicken tacos served with pinto beans. The remains of the fresh fruit from the morning have been transformed into a tasty fruit salad. It's a good time for a margarita, and Scott is known for his mango margarita which does not disappoint. Very tasty and just the right kick.

After lunch, there's time for one last swim or relaxing on deck. With two large fresh water showers on board and a fresh-water hose on deck, it's easy to get cleaned up for the return trip. On the way back, Chris and Leo put up the sails and the Island Cat birth to Thicke's son. Thicke is more famous for his song and video “Blurred lines,” featuring now super famous model Emily Ratajkowski bare naked and songwiter Pharrell Williams, thankfully clothed. Williams is the creator of the popular song “Be Happy.”

Water, again. Many people in the barrios are lucky to get water out of their taps or one or three days a week. The potable water supply...
What's Going On In This...
continued from page 20

interior minister, Olga Sánchez has announced she will seek to promote the decriminalization of pregnancy termination until a woman is 12 weeks along.

She explained she believes in abortion until 12 weeks along because she believes that women “should not be deprived of their freedom.”

Acknowledging it is a topic that polarizes the country, she will seek a dialogue with the state congresses to deal with this issue, in addition to others such as the law which contemplates the right to a dignified death for a terminally ill patient.

The Federal Penal Code provides that a woman may interrupt her pregnancy without being criminalized when the pregnancy is the result of rape or when the woman or the product of conception is “in danger of death”. However, in 18 of 32 states contemplate the legal protection of the fetus.

Sánchez Cordero explained that the National Regeneration Movement (Morena) party is in control of 22 state congresses, which will favor the promotion of this decriminalization of the termination of pregnancy.

COOKING LIKE A MEXICAN...
continued from page 21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Measurement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 tablespoon vanilla extract</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 tablespoon cornstarch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 cup heavy cream</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Directions

Place sugar in a heavy saucepan over medium-high heat, and cook, stirring constantly, until the sugar melts and turns a golden amber color, about 10 minutes. Watch carefully once syrup begins to change color, because it burns easily. Carefully pour the melted sugar syrup into a flan mold. Let cool.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

Line a roasting pan with a damp kitchen towel. Place the flan mold on the towel, inside roasting pan, and place roasting pan on oven rack. Fill roasting pan with boiling water to reach halfway up the sides of the baking dish.

Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Here’s A Twofer

WEST
Male Chihuahua left on the streets like many of the dogs we get into our shelter.

West is approximately 2 years old and gets along with all dogs.

Sometimes he can be shy but he fades away really fast.

Please help me, I am very small and you can carry me everywhere.

Mali
Female Terrier Mix about 3 years old very calm and easy going.

Gets along with all the dogs at our foster home and she is ready for her new family, cats unknown.

Mali was found pregnant and got into surgery right away so we avoid having more puppies burned on the streets.

Mali is very healthy.

BAJA SAFE Sociedad Humanitaria

www.bajasafe.com. Email et.safe@hotmail.com
BRAND NEW RV/TRAILER PARK. Near beach, between Cerritos and Todos Santos. Limited leases available now. Nice, small, quiet. Water, electricity, Wi-Fi, Fenced and gated with 24hrs security. Big Spots. eMail: pescaderorv@gmail.com http://www.pescaderorv.com/ (TF) OCEAN/MOUNTAIN VIEW CHILENO AREA HOMESITE: Paved rd. Underground utilities. City water. Level. Close to beach. Km 17.5 By Owner, Agents welcome. See Craigslist. Just reduced to $99k! 624-144-1072, email: robert@prosytems.com (TF) BEACH FRONT EL ZALATE 1 bdrm condo, sleeps 4. Beachfront. $349,000 US. 624-122-2690. (TF) ROOM MATE WANTED. Share my condo, king size bed, lux amenities, private bathroom, computer, WiFi, your own international and telmex phone number, three pools, maid and laundry service, exercise equipment, ocean view 200 meters from beach, walk to five star restaurants and minutes to town. $500 USD per month to month with security deposit. 624 178 0413. References Available upon request. (TF) LICENSED EXPERIENCED SPORT FISHING CAPTAIN with 127 Baja trips available for yacht deliveries. Tony. 044 624 182 4462 tonydelmar@hotmail.com (TF) NEW SPECTACULAR VIEW Estate 4400+ sq.ft. Only $750K palmillaview.com (TF) WANTED. MEXICAN LICENSED INSURANCE AGENT. Please contact Bob Jankovics. (TF) HELP WANTED Writers, work for the Gringo Gazette, get paid, work your own hours, and have fun doing it carrie@gringogazette.com CLASSIC LUXURY . 94 NISSAN INFINITI Q-45, black with camel leather interior, low mi. rebuilt trans. Michelins, cold air. Mexican plates. Asking $4495, (624) 161-0421. Rattan Vallarta Furniture INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE UP TO 20% OFF CSL 6243555623 www.rattanvalarta.com BIG SALE OF Style artisan made mexican blouses, dresses., etc, 6243555623
This paper was contacted by Chuck Bolotin, who wrote the book on Best Places In The World To Retire. He wanted our readers to help him with the survey on southern Baja so we passed his questions on to you. What do you mean you don't remember being consulted? Well, maybe you weren't and maybe you were and just weren't paying attention. Anyway, many of you participated. Bolotin didn't write specifically on Baja but he did incorporate us in his book.

More than 600 independent “experts” (Bolotin doesn’t define expert), have posted more than 9,500 answers and 250 expat stories, providing their insights and experiences. But then he went further, for an additional survey, one that would provide greater context, trends, and either validate or challenge the most basic assumptions. That’s why his team created their series of surveys. They asked a statistically significant quantity of ex-pats the same questions about their hopes, their fears, their expectations, and how everything turned out. Here are some of the findings.

And here are the winners, in order of places in Mexico where our exp-pat respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country:

- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulum, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%

We are dead last on the list. WeParticipant

- More 55% of respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country.
- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulun, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%

We are dead last on the list. WeParticipant

- More 55% of respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country.
- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulun, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%

We are dead last on the list. WeParticipant

- More 55% of respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country.
- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulun, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%

We are dead last on the list. WeParticipant

- More 55% of respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country.
- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulun, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%

We are dead last on the list. WeParticipant

- More 55% of respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country.
- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulun, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%

We are dead last on the list. WeParticipant

- More 55% of respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country.
- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulun, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%

We are dead last on the list. WeParticipant

- More 55% of respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country.
- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulun, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%

We are dead last on the list. WeParticipant

- More 55% of respondents reported a cost of living of 90% or less than in their home country.
- Baja California Norte: 74.2%
- Greater Mazatlan area: 63.1%
- State of Yucatan, including Merida: 59.1%
- Greater Puerto Vallarta area: 49.4%
- Greater Lake Chapala area: 46.2%
- Greater San Miguel de Allende area: 45.8%
- State of Quintana Roo, including Cancun, Playa del Carmen, Tulun, etc.: 45.5%
- Baja California Sur: 33.2%
We Have Underwater Billboards

Announcing ecological work

BY JAQUE CRUTON

A large sign planted underwater at Cabo Pulmo National Park announces that restoration of the coral is underway. The billboard doesn’t say it, but the implication is pay attention to this fragile environment, didn’t we tell you this is a protected park when you checked out your gear?

From August 2017 to August of this year, the National Commission of Protected Natural Areas (Conanp), in collaboration with the Reef Systems Lab of the local university (UABCs), will restore around 800 chunks of coral in Cabo Pulmo and the nearby Isla Espiritu Santo. Funding comes from the Natural Disasters Fund (Fonden).

These researchers pick up chunks of coral that has broken off, either due to people manhandling it or natural occurrences, and stick the little pieces back on the coral shelf. They then monitor the site to see how successful they have been, and that requires tagging. They use plastic zip ties to clip plastic cards with a site number on it. Seems kind of counter intuitive to use plastic in such a fragile environment that they are trying to restore, but they do need to monitor.

Divers pick up the fallen pieces, put them in a basket, and wait for results of adaption to their new location.

The preliminary results show an average growth of around one and a half inches a year and in a period of three years they already function as a colony or coral reef; mortality rates are around 20% annually, mainly due to natural causes.

QUE PASA IN CABO?...

continued from page 22

Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park is undergoing restoration of the coral. Since the 17,000 acre park was established in 1995, the return of the fish has been astonishing and gratifying to all who have worked so hard to achieve that.

Come Asi,” or in English, Los Cabos Eat Like This, with the goal to increase restaurant sales during the summer season.

Over 30 restaurants in Cabo San Lucas and San Jose will be offering an average of 30% discount and special, inexpensive menus from July 27 through August 5. This is the third year the Los Cabos restaurant ass., known as Canirac, has launched the program.

Oh, wait. This offer is not for tourists, but locals only. If you are a foreigner and can prove that you live here, you will also be entitled to enjoy the discounts. Look up “Los Cabos Come Asi” in Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for a presentation from some of the restaurants involved, or ask your favorite restaurant if they are part of the program.

Our favorites in this program are Maria Jimenez in Cabo and Don Sanchez in San Jose.

Hot Potato. The Tourist Assistance and Protection Center, (CAPTA) is a fancy pants three story building standing in downtown Cabo right on the marina front. The city, owner of the land, continued on page 28
Fish Report
BY GARY GRAHAM

Numbers at a glance: Billfish 37%, tuna 82%, dorado 7%, other species 3%.

This has been one of our summer’s best fishing periods here in Cabo; therefore, this fish report has been one of the hardest to write! There have been so many fish caught of different sizes and species that I wish I could fit them all in, but I’ve had to pick and choose what I consider the best of our catches. Billfish have included sailfish, striped marlin, and blue marlin -- all released.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

FISH REPORT

EXTENDED FORECAST: Looking for the fish reports to improve. Tropical weather patterns remained very quiet, with light ocean swells and high temperatures near 90 degrees; water temps are now back up to 80+ degrees, and the water is steadily cleaning, with no new storms seen developing on the horizon. The extended forecast is looking quiet for the next ten days; it all appears to be favorable for putting our summer season back on track.

732 lb. black marlin caught near La Paz. Captain Blas Abaroa aboard the sport fisher Sanctuary with owner/angler Joe David who hooked and landed the marlin. In addition, Two week family vacation landed one blue, 13 stripe, (all released) numerous dorado and more.

ORDER NOW OR WE’LL THROW THE KITTY UNDER THE BUS.

GRINGO Gazettes
2215 Paseo de Las Americas Suite 25-M143, San Diego, CA, 92154. Ph. (562) 714 6735

SUBSCRIBE
GRINGO Gazette
Yes! Yes! Sign Me Up! It’s not gonna be my fault the kitty got tossed under the bus!

☐ 6 Months 2nd Class Mail (13 Issues) - $45
☐ 12 Months 2nd Class Mail (26 Issues) - $70

Send Your Dinero To The Gringo Gazette and save the kitty!

7232 lb. black marlin caught near La Paz. Captain Blas Abaroa aboard the sport fisher Sanctuary with owner/angler Joe David who hooked and landed the marlin. In addition, Two week family vacation landed one blue, 13 stripe, (all released) numerous dorado and more.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31
Cooking Like a Mexican...

continued from page 23

...continued from page 25

are working here and earning pesos or you are here working for an international company or living from your saved money in euros or US dollars. Life is expensive if you earn pesos, but it is much cheaper if you are living on euros or US dollars, said a 44 year old married female working part time from Europe.

“It is crazy how cheap you can live here,” said a 34 year old female American living in Baja California Sur. She must be eating rice and beans.

“I receive Social Security of $1,000 per month and I am now saving at least $200 of it,” said a 65+ year old female living at Lake Chapala area for more than 10 years.

“A nice cart of groceries at our local supermarket in Cabo is about 50% of the cost in Sonoma County. And the fish is fresh” said a semi-retired American living in Baja California Sur for more than 10 years.

“I can afford a housekeeper, pool man and yard maintenance once a week, so I have much less chores,” said a 70 year old divorced female American living in Baja California Sur less than 2 years.

“I could get a cleaning lady to come for 50 pesos ($2.50 USD) an hour, but that just makes me feel like I am being lazy. Plus, I live in a 400-square foot trailer,” said a fully retired American living in Baja California Norte less than 2 years.

“You can really have the champagne and caviar lifestyle here in Mexico on a tuna fish budget,” said a married female from the US living at Lake Chapala for less than 2 years.

Finally, 80% said if they spent the same amount of money in their home country as in Mexico they would experience a better lifestyle. The lopsided results were very consistent with previous results, with only 2.5% reporting that their lifestyle would be better in their country of origin if they spent the same amount of money as they did in Mexico.

To see details on this poll, go to BestPlacesInTheWorldToRetire.com.
Ask a Mexican
This week we asked: what do you think about the elections outcome? What difference do you expect from President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador?

Jesus Briseño, 18, student.
I can’t believe he won, we are a stupid country and deserve stupid presidents. What is the whole point in him winning? He has been trying for so long, it’s like he is a child who begs for the same toy for years until he gets it. I think his craving for power is greater than his love for the country and that is going to show in the long run. Meantime, his followers are accepting that gas prices are rising because of the economy, and when other presidents make the gas prices change, they say it’s because the president is stealing money. I expect nothing good, I think we are going to end up without food and resources and eventually starve.

Alma Rosas, 42, housewife.
He deserved the win after so many years trying, he was our best choice and I have all my faith set on him and his government. He has a great team and his wife is one educated lady, not like the semi pornstar we have right now. I think that Mexico is going to reach its full potential because AMLO is going to make more refineries and we are going to be richer than Dubai. He is the only president I have seen that has the courage it takes to lead a country like ours with people like us who really wanted something different. This year we did not have a fake election, this year the people were heard.

Daniela Barrios, 19, student.
I think there was something amazing about elections and that is the participation rate we had this year. It was the second most voted election since the seventies I think and that is because the people are starting to wake up and realize they have to do something for their country. I think AMLO is going to do great things for the country because he has been planning this for about 18 years, and the people in his team seem very educated and capable of doing the job they have been appointed to.

Nicanor Gonzalez, 42, builder.
I don’t really care much for politics, but I do have to say I was surprised with what happened at the elections. I never expected AMLO to win and I think his proposals are a little extreme and he wants the people to believe he will change the country, but we have to change it ourselves. If we are not good citizens, then nothing in our country will change because we are the ones who have to get the ball going. I expect things to be the same, honestly nothing has changed in the last few years except prices go up, and salaries stay the same. But the rules are pretty much the same and the events too, we get fed with fake news and there are some big fish buying our opinions. I only hope we don’t end up too bad, like Venezuela, people say that is how we are going to end up, but I honestly hope not.

Lucio Guzman, 48, welder.
I hate that guy, I really wish I stayed in the U.S instead of coming back to my country. He’s no better than the orange nugget, but at least in the united states I wasn’t as poor as I have to be here. I can’t build anything with my money, there is no way to save, or to make a better living. I just think that AMLO really wanted to sit on the presiden-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31
So You’re Taking A Day Trip To Todos Santos

These are some don’t miss places

BY ELLE OCEAN

Pastries. Leave where ever you are early enough to get here by 9 a.m. Yes there are several bakeries/coffee shops/panaderias that will have delicious pastries all day but if fresh out of the oven French style pastry dough makes you salivate there is nothing better than the warm apple turnovers, cinnamon rolls and muffins awaiting you in a humble, plastic display case at the Todos Santos Cafe. Said pastries are usually devoured by devout locals by 9 a.m. If you’ve been outmaneuvered and are left empty handed simply walk one block west. The offerings from Taller 17—coffee shop recently started by rising culinary star Julyanna Ortega are equally delicious. (Check her Instagram for behind the scenes snaps of her training sessions with Javier Plascencia in Valle de Guadalupe last Summer. Her cinnamon rolls are nearly guilt free sized and softly sweet. Her blueberry scones, red velvet cupcakes and peanut butter cookie ice cream sandwiches aren’t bad either.

Finally if all those options fail, you might hit the Jazzmundo bakery pastry case on the right day when their slightly more Mexican pastries are fresh. (These aren’t always same-day fresh though, which accounts for my ranking them 3rd.) By now you should have grabbed one of the free town maps available at each of these fine eateries.

Drive to the Pemex. Locate the road on the opposite side of the Pemex from the OXXO with an ATV mechanic across the target road from the Pemex. Follow this road past Pura Vida/El Molino Park which will be on your right. Then make a left in front of the baseball stadium. Go one block and make a right. Bear left to follow this road about one more block until you come to the JW’s outpost on your right. If you need to burn off some calories and have comfortable shoes, leave your car here and hoof your way to the La Posa Trail. (Otherwise you can drive most of the way.) Follow the signs on the electricity posts for “Posada La Pозa” a hotel/restaurant that in three years of living here I’ve never seen open. But their directional signs are supremely useful when trying to find the Posa trail. If you follow the trail to the end you will have seen a bit of the local neighborhood, some fantastic architecture, and finally a fresh water lake buffered from the sea only by the beach and a gorgeous little trail up the side of the mesa jutting out into the sea before you. Warning: this will give you fantasies of moving toTodos Santos.

If high-end is your thing, skip #2 and head right to the pool at Hotel San Cristobal. Reserve you day pass ahead of time as they are limited. They cost $50 plus tax and

gallery with varied works by one of the pioneers of the Todos Santos artist’s colony. If you’re lucky you may even find this ethereal angel working in her adjoining open air studio. Finally Michael’s gallery across Calle Topete from Plaza Antigua is my new favorite after falling for how he painted the T in the aforementioned Todos Santos sign. (Each letter was decorated by a local artist).

Head towards the pot holes and seemingly endless palm trees on Calle Topete’s west of town side. Enjoy the views through our lovely little Huerta (orchard) dotted with organic produce stands which occasionally have divine fresh sourdough loaves. Arrive at a stop sign (while this sign is visible and posted, most townsies take it as only a suggestion—consider you’ve warned yourself.) Make a left, pass the mural wall, then make another quick left to park in front of La Esquina. Though the Esquina is endlessly Instagram able, equal parts Mexican and Gringo, and shows your Parts Unknown skills. La Esquina boasts excellent coffee drinks both hot and cold, smoothies, green juices and tortilla soup you may never forget. Also, sweet potato fries. Marlin lettuce wraps, huevos and chilis that will basically sign your new lease in TS. Also, let’s be real, slow service is in a fact a privilege 95% of the world will never get to experience, so yes, you still tip.)

Finally let’s talk about sunsets. If you are at this point exhausted by unfamiliar routes, just head back to town, park before Calle Topete ends, and walk up the three floors to the roof top of the Guaycura Hotel. Sunset makes me think of course you have a minimal tolerance for adventure, then the paved road will serve you better. (Note I’ve come to equate any paved road with highway. Be aware when finding your way even by driving north along the target road a path or a trail to you is likely to be called a road both on maps and colloquially in this desert context.)

So, El Mirador means the view in Spanish, and it is a heck of a view from there. You are way up high on the bluff, the place is a huge palapa out in the middle of nowhere, and the entire experience is amazing.

So, El Mirador means the view in Spanish, and it is a heck of a view from there. You are way up high on the bluff, the place is a huge palapa out in the middle of nowhere, and the entire experience is amazing.

Be careful driving back to Cabo at night because there is the occasional cow or even a donkey. Nobody wants to kill Eroye on vacation. I’ve seen both a donkey and horse as roadkill and it’s emotionally unsettling for folks who like me didn’t equeat beef with Bossie the cow until much too late in life. If you stay overnight you will get a better impression of the reality of small town Baja life. It’s easy to think on a perfect day trip that we live in the perfect place. And we do live in a beautiful, kind-hearted place. But on an overnight, you’ll get more chances to eat (Briquetta! Pacifica Fish Market! Poblanos! Heirbabuena! The flat tire, the broken AC, and you’ll have a good chance of experiencing bad wi-fi, having the AC or power go out, or encountering a toilet that can’t handle your wet wipes in a bathroom stall with no hook for your purse. These small, seemingly annoying quirks of developing world travel are the medicine only travel can offer up. They are the vital ingredients for an alternate perspective. Somehow when you’ve witnessed all the varieties of life available just one hour outside of Cabo, the next time your boss jockeys for power at your expense it’s a million times less impactful and perhaps even comical. If dirt roads, shaky Wi-Fi, and slow service aren’t for you, maybe don’t venture further afoot into Baja. But if relief is what you seek, or maybe it’s a new thought you’re after, risk the flat tire, the broken AC, and an inconsequential disagreement with your travel companions. It’s good medicine.
Lots of roosters to 60 pounds are around which is usual for this time of year. This is THE BEST pargo year in recent memory. At least five were taken weighing over 30 pounds. These are big pargo! The secret is finding the right spot. There are a lot of fish, but the fish are not everywhere. Locating the correct current line (warmer water), or bluer water was the key. But also finding a structure, like floating and clumping sargasso weed, on the surface could make the difference.

In addition to the dorado, there's still some chunky tuna around, the smaller fish being 40 pounders. Many folks are looking for roosterfish, but they're along the shores, and good-sized, between 40 and 70 pounds. Wahoo are still hanging out as well, but we're losing more than we're catching; we have also seen more hookups on striped marlin recently but most fish are either busting off or getting released.
Own Your Key to Paradise

The Residences at Las Ventanas al Paraíso
A Rosewood Resort, Ty Warner Property
Los Cabos, México